



Environmental Bulletin

Volume 24 Number 15
September 17, 2012

from the Savannah River Site

Statement of Basis/Proposed Plan B Area Operable Unit

The United States Department of Energy (DOE) will release a Statement of Basis/Proposed Plan on September 17, 2012, describing the proposed remedial approach for the B Area Operable Unit at the Savannah River Site (SRS). The South Carolina Department of Health and Environmental Control (SCDHEC) will also release a draft Resource Conservation and Recovery Act (RCRA) permit modification for this unit. These documents will be available for public review and copying at the locations listed below. The public comment period is scheduled for September 17, 2012 to November 1, 2012.

The Statement of Basis/Proposed Plan was completed to meet the terms of the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation and Liability Act (CERCLA), a law governing the investigation and cleanup of waste units. The Statement of Basis/Proposed Plan and draft RCRA permit modification also meet the terms of RCRA.

The B Area Operable Unit is located in the northwest quadrant of the SRS in Aiken County, South Carolina. The B Area Operable Unit consists of two subunits: Early Construction and Operational Disposal Sites (ECODS) B-3 and B-5, and the Heavy Water Components Test Reactor. The DOE has performed non-time critical removal actions at both subunits. In the current state, ECODS B-3 and B-5 pose no risk to human health or the environment. Therefore, the preferred alternative for the ECODS B-3 and B-5 subunit is No Further Action. Because some residual contamination is still present below ground surface at the Heavy Water Components Test Reactor, the preferred remedial alternative for the subunit is Land Use Controls with Groundwater Monitoring.

DOE has worked with the United States Environmental Protection Agency-Region 4 (EPA) and the SCDHEC to ensure the remedial approach is consistent with all applicable environmental requirements. DOE, EPA, and SCDHEC have reviewed the risks associated with the B Area Operable Unit and have evaluated remedial alternatives.

Comments on the Statement of Basis/Proposed Plan and the draft RCRA permit are requested by November 1, 2012. Upon completion of the public comment period, a Responsiveness Summary that addresses public comments will be prepared. The Responsiveness Summary will be made available with the Record of Decision and the final RCRA permit modification and will be sent to each person who submits comments.

Copies of the Statement of Basis/Proposed Plan are available in the administrative record. The administrative record is available in the information repositories listed below:

- DOE Public Reading Room at the Gregg-Graniteville Library at the University of South Carolina-Aiken campus in Aiken, SC; and
- Thomas Cooper Library Government Documents Department at the University of South Carolina in Columbia, SC.

Hard copies of the Statement of Basis/Proposed Plan are available at the following:

- Reese Library at Augusta State University in Augusta, GA; and
- Asa H. Gordon Library at Savannah State University in Savannah, GA.

An electronic copy of the Statement of Basis/Proposed Plan is posted at the following address: <http://www.srs.gov/general/programs/soil/pub/pubinv.html>

Copies of the draft RCRA permit modification are available for review at SCDHEC during regular business hours, 8:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., Monday through Friday, except legal holidays, at the following locations:

SCDHEC
Bureau of Land and Waste Management
8911 Farrow Road
Columbia, South Carolina 29203
Phone: (803) 896-4000

or
SCDHEC-Region 5
Aiken EQC Office
206 Beaufort St., N.E.
Aiken, SC 29801
Phone: (803) 641-7670

If there is interest in discussing this recommended remedial approach, a public hearing may be requested. Comments on the Statement of Basis/Proposed Plan should be sent to Mr. Paul Sauerborn. Comments on the draft RCRA permit modification or requests for a public hearing should be sent to Mr. Richard Haynes. For additional information or to request a public meeting contact:

Paul Sauerborn
Savannah River Nuclear Solutions, LLC
Savannah River Site
Building 730-1B
Aiken, SC 29808
1-803-952-6658
paul.sauerborn@srs.gov

or
SCDHEC
Attn: Richard Haynes, P.E., Director
Division of Waste Management
Bureau of Land and Waste Management
2600 Bull Street
Columbia, SC 29201
(803) 896-4000

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**For more information on this or
other environmental and compli-
ance activities at SRS, contact:**

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Public Involvement

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